

TEACHERS' RESERVE GOES FOR PENSIONS

Mayor Signs Bill Authorizing Use of \$300,000 of \$800,000 Fund.

VETOES ACT TO END CONDEMNATION FEES

Constitutional Defect Found in It—Other Measures Passed on by Mitchell.

As the only solution of the problem presented by the practical bankruptcy of the teachers' retirement fund, Mayor Mitchell approved yesterday the bill permitting the Controller, on requisition from the Board of Education, to use in the payment of pensions to former teachers \$300,000 of the \$800,000 reserve in the fund. He has asked the special pension committee to work out a plan before next year to use the fund on a sound financial basis. It is estimated that unless something is done the annual deficit will grow to \$300,000 in 1915, making a total deficit for the five years of \$1,500,000.

"The gravity of the matter cannot be overestimated," says the Mayor in his memorandum, "and the problem is one that demands the most careful thought and painstaking effort of officials concerned and the members of the teaching force."

Because of technical defects in drafting, one of which he believed would make it unconstitutional, the Mayor found it necessary to disapprove the bill for improved methods of condemnation. The intent of the bill was to carry out the constitutional amendments providing for excess of condemnation and relief from the burdensome method of condemning property only by means of commissioners.

The theory of the bill was to allow the city to take more property than is physically needed for the particular improvement and to place the trial of condemnation cases in the courts without juries.

Among the defects in drafting the Mayor mentions the failure to mention excess condemnation in the head and the fact that it would take effect immediately, putting an extra burden on the courts for each provision made.

Among the bills approved by the Mayor yesterday are:

Granting right to re-examination to lay members of the Police and Fire departments.

Allowing summons instead of arrest for violation of fire regulations.

Allowing Board of Estimate to give additional park space to New York Botanical Garden, Bronx Park.

Making it a misdemeanor to violate traffic regulations.

Providing that Board of Aldermen may fix a fee for the issuance of pistol permits.

Providing that police magistrates have jurisdiction instead of former police justices.

In relation to arrests for disorderly conduct and vagrancy in Queens.

Providing for division into sections and blocks of the upper part of Manhattan.

Allowing magistrates to treat violations of the labor law the same as violations of other laws.

Providing for better methods of recording public papers in Register's office, County of New York.

Limiting district attorneys from paying fees to city courts or other officers.

Providing funds for the removal of snow.

Amending Municipal Explosives Commission and allowing the Fire Commissioner to shut the dangerous storage of combustibles.

ART EXHIBITIONS AND SALES.

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Important Unrestricted Public Sales

Under the Management of

The American Art Association

TOMORROW (MONDAY) MORNING at 11 o'clock

AND

Wednesday Afternoon and Evening of this week at 1 and 8 o'clock

ON THE PREMISES 616 FIFTH AVENUE

(South of Fifth Street)

ADMISSION by card, free on written application to the Managers.

By order of the Surrogate Court of Putnam County, New York,

under direction of John R. Yale and William H. Berrigan, the

temporary administrators, Arthur Knox, Esq., Attorney.

The Art Objects and Other Property

consisting of

An Important Collection of Paintings

Household Furniture and Embellishments, Bronzes, Ceramics,

Glassware, Cabinet Objects, Oriental Rugs, Carpets,

Rich Draperies, and Miscellaneous Objects

Contained in the Residence of the late

Mrs. Julia Lorillard Butterfield

No. 616 Fifth Avenue

ALSO

ON FREE VIEW BEGINNING THURSDAY OF THIS WEEK

At the American Art Galleries

To be Sold at Unrestricted Public Sale

On the Afternoons of April 28, 29, 30 and May 1 at 2:30.

By Order of the

A. J. Crawford Company

WHICH MAKE THIS SALE BECAUSE IT IS DISCONTINUING

ONE BRANCH OF ITS BUSINESS, AND TO ABSOLUTELY

DISPOSE OF THE FOLLOWING PORTIONS OF ITS STOCK.

Original Antique English Furniture

AND FINE REPRODUCTIONS

IN AND OF THE FOLLOWING PERIODS:

Chippendale and Heppelwhite,

Mahogany Dining Room and Library Furniture,

Sheraton Bedroom and Dining Room Furniture,

Adam Decorated Saitinwood Drawing Room and Bedroom Furniture,

Antique Jacobean Oak,

Early Victorian Black Decorated Furniture,

A Collection of Old English Longcase Clocks,

Queen Anne Sofas, Arm Chairs and Cabinets in Walnut,

Chinese and Queen Anne Lacquer Furniture,

Antique Marble and Wood Georgian Mantelpieces,

Old English Silver, Crystal Antique Jewelry and many other pieces.

*Illustrated Catalogue mailed on receipt of Fifty Cents.

The sales will be conducted by MR. THOMAS E. KIRBY

assisted by Mr. Otto Bernert,

THE AMERICAN ART ASSOCIATION, Mgrs.

6 East 22d Street, Madison Sq. South, New York.

Providing for block system to be established in Borough of Queens.

Among the bills vetoed by the Mayor are:

Requiring an additional magistrate to sit between the afternoon and evening sessions in the First Division, and another in the Second Division, to receive bail.

Extending the time of the plan of distribution of the tax on foreign insurance companies doing business in New York, from 1917 to 1925.

Refunding assessments erroneously paid by charitable corporations.

Allowing magistrates to place on probation first offenders of the tenement house law in relation to prostitution.

Widening of Killa path in Queens. This same as previous bill vetoed by the Mayor.

Providing for a highway on top of the Brooklyn Aqueduct.

Allowing the Board of Estimate to provide for the relief of the family of an citizen killed while aiding a policeman in the performance of duty.

In vetoing the bill for improved methods of condemnation the Mayor expressed the hope that the bill would be correctly drawn and passed at the special session of the Legislature.

WILL FIGHT PROHIBITION

Labor Unions of New York Join Hands with Liquor Dealers.

Trade unions of New York have decided to fight prohibition. Believing that the consumption of intoxicating liquors cannot be stopped by law and that thousands employed directly or indirectly in the liquor traffic would be thrown out of work by such legislation, labor intends to stand by the saloons. Ernest Bohm, secretary of the Central Federated Union, said last night that the federation will send circulars to all central labor unions throughout the United States asking them to join the campaign.

"The fight by the unions in this city and elsewhere," he continued, "will be directed principally against the Anti-Saloon League, which is trying to bring about nation-wide prohibition. The experience of many years has shown that legislation directed against the traffic has resulted only in the illicit sale of liquor. Statistics also show that indulgence in intoxicants is on the decline and that the proportion of moderate drinkers among those who are not total abstainers is increasing."

PARROT STOLEN, HE APPEALS TO MAYOR

South Brooklyn Man Also Asks Mitchell to Aid Quest for Purloined Rabbit.

Here is a loud wail from a man in Brooklyn who had his parrot and rabbit "stolen." The police didn't do anything about it, so the man, whose name is withheld, appealed to Mayor Mitchell, just as he would have done to Mayor Gaynor. The police will be asked to look into it.

The letter, just received, follows:

"Is there any protection for South Brooklyn at all, the whole neighborhood is musted with young hoodlums and thieves and yet nothing seems to be done to check them. Some time ago there was a parrot stole out of our yard and it was an old pet having it for over 18 years when it was stole.

"I notified police Headquarters they never bothered about it and now the children had four nice rabbits & they were stole also. I notified police quarters again and all the satisfaction I got was that it was a violation to keep rabbits.

"Suppose it was a violation, it was a greater violation for thieves to come in the yard and steal them so I would just like to know who anyone can go to when anything is stole as they're in no use going complaining to the Police."

ART EXHIBITIONS AND SALES.

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CAPTAIN GEERT STENGER.

ROLLING DEEP HIS HOME

Captain Stenger on Last Lap of 240th Trip Across Ocean.

When the Holland-American steamship Rotterdam leaves this port at 1 a. m. on Wednesday, Captain Geert Stenger, senior captain of the company's fleet, will start on the return voyage of his 240th round trip as a master in the New York and Rotterdam service.

The skipper recently took the Rotterdam on a cruise to the Levant, carrying with him 80 American passengers, the largest sightseeing complement ever taken out of this port.

Captain Stenger, who has been a master for twenty-five years, has received several decorations for saving life at sea.

DOCTORS INTERCEDE FOR RIVER BATHS

Ask That Donohue and Others Be Permitted to Keep Places Open.

With the final public hearing on river baths scheduled to be held to-morrow at the offices of the Department of Health, it was learned yesterday that a petition bearing the names of many physicians had been received by Dr. S. S. Goldwater, the Health Commissioner, asking that certain bathing places on the upper West Side be permitted to stay open this summer. One of the establishments is owned and operated by Philip F. Donohue, treasurer of Tammany Hall.

Mr. Donohue said recently that physicians from the Washington Heights Hospital and other physicians of Washington Heights enjoyed the bathing at his place. At the same time he gave it to be understood that as he had a five or six year lease he thought he would "have something against the city" in the event that his place was refused a permit.

Since it was first announced in The Tribune early in March that the Health Commissioner would abolish all baths that did not come up to regulations laid down for them, there have been several petitions of hundreds of names sent to him asking him to change his plans.

The regulations are to be adopted at the meeting of the Board of Health on Tuesday. All baths that conform to these regulations, which, in brief, say that the water must be purified, chemically or by filter, will get permits.

The city baths will be treated the same as the public ones. It is questionable whether all the baths of the city can be reconstructed this year to conform to the new rules. It is expected that some of the owners of private floating baths will perhaps do so. But the regulations are to hit hardest the bathing "beaches" along the river front. It is a bathing beach that is kept by Donohue at West 15th st., and there are several others along the Hudson River, in which Donohue says he is not interested.

BROKER SENTENCED FOR BOND FRAUD

C. M. Smith Gets Six Months on Island in Oxford Linen Mills Case.

Clarence M. Smith, a broker, of 18 Wall street, who pleaded guilty to an indictment charging use of the mails to defraud in selling \$100,000 worth of bonds of the Oxford Linen Mills Company, of North Brookfield, Mass., was sentenced yesterday by Judge Hand in the United States District Court to Blackwell's Island for six months.

Smith's indictment followed the conviction of seven officials of the Sterling Debutene Corporation and their commitment to the Atlanta penitentiary for using the mails to promote the Oxford Linen Mills Company. Smith sold the bonds of the concern to persons who had already been defrauded by the Sterling Debutene people on the ground that the sale of the bonds was to put the Oxford company on its feet. He represented that the bonds were based on a first mortgage.

Smith pleaded that he had been induced to handle the bonds by Benjamin C. Mudge, the inventor of a secret process of linen making for the Oxford company. On the promise that he was to get a 10 per cent commission, Mudge, who was sentenced for three years, was under indictment at the time.

To Celebrate Golden Wedding.

Mr. and Mrs. Simon Steiner will celebrate to-day their golden wedding. Mr. Steiner is seventy-six years old, and his wife is seventy. They were married in Pilsen, Austria, their native place, in 1841.

In their apartment at 45 East 19th st. surrounded by their two sons, Leo and Louis; daughter, Mrs. Helen Steiner; three grandchildren and friends, they will tell stories of their twenty-four years together in Pilsen and their twenty-six years in this country. Before his retirement from business Mr. Steiner was a wine merchant.

VINCENT ASTOR IMPROVING

"Doing Nicely" Is Announcement at Fiancee's Home.

Vincent Astor, who has been ill for several days at the country home of Robert P. Huntington, father of his fiancée, Miss Helen Dinsmore Huntington, continues to show improvement, according to word from the Huntington home last night.

"Mr. Astor is doing very nicely," was the brief announcement made.

SCHOOLBOY, 16, KILLS SELF

Left Alone at Home, Life-Weary Lad Commits Suicide.

Finding life a burden at sixteen, Vernon Barsett, a boy who attended the Manual Training High School of Brooklyn, shot himself in the head yesterday at his home, 121 Prospect Place.

He was alone in the house at the time, his father being at his plumbing office, at 255 Flatbush ave., and his mother and three sisters having gone out for the afternoon at about 3 o'clock.

The boy's father, James R. Barsett, returned home about 5 o'clock. In the bathroom he came upon the body of his son. He said last night that members of the family could give no explanation of the suicide.

COUNT AGAIN WINS FIGHT FOR LEGACY

Jury, Like Surrogate, Holds That D'Arsoth's American Born Aunt Made Valid Will.

Count Guillaume d'Arsoth, secretary of the cabinet of the King of the Belgians, won a second victory yesterday in his defense of the will of his aunt, Countess Gaston d'Arsoth, by the verdict of a jury in the Supreme Court, which answered affirmatively the question whether the countess was mentally capable of making a will, and whether she knew to whom she was giving her estate. The estate was valued at about \$400,000, of which she left one-fourth to the count.

Twice Count d'Arsoth came to New York from Belgium to meet the charges of Joseph de Tours Lenthion, a nephew, and other heirs of Countess d'Arsoth, that he had used undue influence on the testatrix, and that she was not of sound mind when she made her will.

The first proceeding was a contest of the will tried before Surrogate Cohan. The latter upheld the will. Then Lenthion and the other contestants took the case to the Supreme Court for a jury trial, which ended yesterday with a verdict that gives the Belgian official the share of the estate left to him by his aunt.

Countess d'Arsoth, who died about two years ago, was the daughter of the late Christian E. Detmold, a civil engineer, from whom she inherited her fortune. She had a strong leaning toward persons of the nobility and showed a great fondness for her nephew. She also showed much solicitude about his marriage. Count d'Arsoth married a granddaughter of Nubar Pacha, the noted Prime Minister of Egypt of thirty years ago.

Printing Exposition Opens.

The Graphic Arts Exposition was opened yesterday at the Grand Central Palace in commemoration of a century of printing with the power press, and displays the phases of the printer's art as practised at this time. Most of the large manufacturers of printing machinery have established presses as exhibits. The exposition will continue the coming week.

Beset by Many Perils for Sake of Her Motion Picture Art

Miss Gauntier Tells How It Is to Face Cold on Diet of Dog Meat.

One cold night, the coldest night lately you can think of, a Central Park policeman saw a ragged woman, also just as ragged a woman as you can think of, tottering on the brink of the lake in the park and he knew at once she was bent on suicide. So he grabbed her and firmly refused to let her do anything of the kind, his heart swelling with sympathy for her miserable condition.

Then his heart suddenly flattened as all of the sympathy went out of it, for she explained to him that she did not intend to jump in anyway, for she was only Miss Gene Gauntier, author and motion picture actress, preparing herself to play the part of a poor woman who goes to the park "to end it all."

"I almost died in the cause of my art," Miss Gauntier said yesterday. "I abandoned my home surrounded by luxury and went first to live in Hester st. with \$1 in my pocket, and shared an attic room with two women poorer than myself. We slept on the floor; we covered ourselves with old pieces of awning; we paid \$1 a month for the hotel. We chipped in and bought five pounds of dog bone stew meat and lived on it for four days.

"To prepare myself for the part I am to play in the Warner's feature, 'The Fight for a Birthright,' I went to the park and sat shivering in my rags, and finally crept to the lake. I threw up my hands despairingly, and would have toppled in if the policeman had not caught me. I at last convinced him I didn't really mean it and wasn't even a vagrant, and he let me go.

"When I returned to my lodgings I found that one of the women had got poison from the stew meat. They took her to the hospital in an ambulance, and she died. Then I went out to seek work in the sweatshops. I worked one day for fourteen hours—and they paid me 20 cents for my labor."

In addition to these heartrending experiences Miss Gauntier had several headaches, but it was all in the cause of her art, so even that was all right. And it

all has enabled her, she said, to play her part in "The Fight for a Birthright" just as it should be done. If you don't believe it climb into some rags some cold night and go out and take a look at the lake in the park with nothing but dog meat in your stomach. If you don't want to prove it that way go see Miss Gauntier do it for you in the motion pictures.

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